

Now began the crucial action of the war, the time Washington had been waiting for with exquisite patience. A powerful French squadron under Admiral de Grasse arrived at the mouth of the Chesapeake from Haiti and gained temporary naval superiority off the Virginia coast. Under carefully coordinated plans, Washington and the French General Rochambeau marched south from New York to Annapolis, where De Grasse transported the allied army across Chesapeake Bay. At the same time, General the Marquis de Lafayette was ordered to march upon Yorktown from his position at Richmond.

By September 1781, Cornwallis and the main British forces in North America found themselves in a trap. French warships were at their rear. Regular forces—not the badly armed and untrained militia the British had pushed around on the battlefield for years—closed in on them from the front. By October 9, Washington's and Rochambeau's armies had dug extensive siege works all around Yorktown, so there could be no escape. Now the bombardment began. The greatest guerrilla war in history was coming to a classic close.

Murderous fire from 70 heavy guns began to destroy Yorktown, piece by piece.

As the bombardment commenced, signer Thomas Nelson of Virginia was at the front in command of the Virginia militia forces. In 1776 Nelson had been an immensely wealthy tobacco planter and merchant in partnership with a man named Reynolds. His home, a stately Georgian mansion, was in Yorktown. As the Revolution began, Nelson said, "I am a merchant of Yorktown, but I am a Virginian first. Let my trade perish. I call God to witness that if any British troops are landed in the County of York, of which I am lieutenant, I will wait for no orders, but will summon the militia and drive the invaders into the seas." Nelson succeeded Thomas Jefferson as Governor of Virginia, and was still Governor in 1781.

Lord Cornwallis and his staff had moved their headquarters into Nelson's home. This was reported by a relative who was allowed to pass through the lines. And while American cannon balls were making a shambles of the town, leaving the mangled bodies of British grenadiers and horses lying bleeding in the streets, the house of Governor Nelson remained untouched.

Nelson asked the gunners: "Why do you spare my house?"

"Sir, out of respect to you," a gunner replied.

"Give me the cannon," Nelson roared. At his insistence, the cannon fired on his magnificent house and smashed it.

After 8 days of horrendous bombardment, a British drummer boy and an officer in scarlet coats appeared behind a flag of truce on the British breastplates. The drum began to beat "The Parley."

Cornwallis was asking General Washington's terms.

On October 19, the British regulars marched out of Yorktown, their fifes wailing "The World Turned Upside Down." They marched through a mile-long column of French and Americans, stacked their arms, and marched on. It was, as Lord North was to say in England when he heard the news, all over.

But for Thomas Nelson the sacrifice was not quite over. He had raised \$2 million for the Revolutionary cause by pledging his own estates. The loans came due; a newer peacetime Congress refused to honor them, and Nelson's property was forfeit. He was never reimbursed.

He died a few years later at the age of 50 living with his large family in a small and modest house.

Another Virginia signer, Carter Braxton, was also ruined. His property, mainly con-

sisting of sailing ships, was seized and never recovered.

These were the men who were later to be called "reluctant" rebels. Most of them had not wanted trouble with the Crown. But when they were caught up in it, they had willingly pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor for the sake of their country.

It was no idle pledge. Of the 56 who signed the Declaration of Independence, 9 died of wounds or hardships during the war.

Five were captured and imprisoned, in each case with brutal treatment.

Several lost wives, sons, or family. One lost his thirteen children. All were, at one time or another, the victims of manhunts, and driven from their homes.

Twelve signers had their houses burned. Seventeen lost everything they owned.

Not one defected or went back on his pledged word.

There honor and the Nation they did so much to create, is still intact.

But freedom, on that first Fourth of July, came high.

### ELECTIONS IN ZIMBABWE

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise to congratulate the people of Zimbabwe on their participation in the historic elections that took place over the weekend. So often, events in Africa are only mentioned on this floor and in the press only in the event of crisis or tragedy. But only days ago, the people of Zimbabwe seized control of their collective destiny and gave the international community a reason to celebrate rather than lament conditions in Africa.

For twenty years, politics in Zimbabwe had been dominated by one party and indeed one man. President Mugabe had the support of all but three members of the 150-seat Parliament. Changes to Zimbabwe's constitution, even when rejected by voters as they were in February, could still be passed through this compliant legislature, enabling the executive to continue to shore up power and ignore the growing chorus of protest from citizens disgusted by corruption and distressed by mismanagement. But this week, the tide turned in Zimbabwe. Without access to the state-run media and without significant financing, opposition candidates still managed to win fifty-eight parliamentary seats and end the ruling party's stranglehold on the state.

Mr. President, the world's attention was focused on Zimbabwe over the weekend because of the disturbing events that led up to the balloting. Opposition candidates and supporters have been intimidated, beaten, and even, in more than 25 cases, killed. International assessment teams have indicated that given this violent preface, these elections were not free and fair.

But as we acknowledge these flaws, even as we recognize the poisoned environment in which citizens of Zimbabwe were called upon to make their choice, we must also appreciate the courage of the voters and the historic changes they have brought to their country.

Zimbabwe is still, without question, a country in crisis. But the people of Zimbabwe themselves have taken a decisive step toward resolving that crisis. In the face of violence and intimidation, a remarkable number of voters chose a peaceful and rule-governed expression of their will, and the power in their statement has fundamentally changed the nature of governance in Zimbabwe and silenced the pessimists who claimed that Zimbabwe was already hopeless and lost.

In the wake of these elections, many challenges remain in Zimbabwe. The next round of presidential elections must be conducted in a free, fair, and democratic manner. Genuine, rule-governed land reform must move forward. The economy must be repaired, step by step. Zimbabwe, along with the other African states that have troops in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, must extricate itself from the costly conflict. And perhaps most importantly, government and civil society alike must address the devastating AIDS crisis head-on.

International support and assistance will be critical to these efforts. The Zimbabwe Democracy Act, a bill introduced by Senator FRIST and of which I was an original co-sponsor, recognizes both the obvious need for more progress toward democracy and the rule of law in Zimbabwe, and the need for international support. I hope that the conditions laid out in that bill for resumption of a complete program of bilateral assistance will be met expeditiously. And I am glad that, in the meantime, the bill ensures that U.S. assistance will continue to bolster democratic governance and the rule of law, humanitarian efforts, and land reform programs being conducted outside the auspices of the government of Zimbabwe. This bill has passed the Senate, and I hope that the House will pass it soon, as it contains particularly timely provisions which will assist individuals and institutions who accrue costs of penalties in the pursuit of elective office or democratic reforms.

So again, I extend my congratulations to the people of Zimbabwe on their historic vote, and I urge my colleagues to take note of the potential for real change and real progress that exists within Zimbabwean society and indeed within many of the countries of Africa. Africa is not a hopeless continent. One cannot paint the entire region in the same depressing and fatalistic shades. And Mr. President, I intend to come to this floor to highlight the promise and the achievements of the diverse region in the remaining weeks of this session, in an effort to counter the lazy, misguided analysis that suggests we should wash our hands of engagement with this remarkable part of the world.

### THE MICROSOFT CASE

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, Judge Learned Hand once observed: "The successful competitor, having been urged